

REMARKS

This responds to the Office Action mailed on February 1, 2006. Claims 1, 15 and 41 are amended, claims 2-5, 7-14, 16-19 and 26-38 are canceled, and claims 42-46 are added; as a result, claims 1, 6, 15, 20-25 and 39-46 are now pending in this application. Applicant respectfully reserves the right to reintroduce canceled claims in one or more divisional applications.

§102 Rejection of the Claims

Claim 1 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) for anticipation by Kruger et al. (U.S. 6,502,458) Possey et al. (U.S. Publication 2003/0033867) or Lebrun et al. (U.S. 6,807,875). Claim 1 has been amended to include the language of claim 2, which was found to be allowable. Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration and allowance.

§103 Rejection of the Claims

Claims 15, 20 and 41 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Kruger et al., Possey et al., or Lebrun et al. in view of Pokharna et al. (U.S. 6,358,327). Claim 15 has been amended to include the language of claim 16, which was found to be allowable. Claim 41 has been amended to include language from claim 16. Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration and allowance.

Allowable Subject Matter

Claims 2 and 16 were objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but were indicated to be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. Their base claims have been amended to incorporate the language of these dependent claims.

Claims 6, 21-22 and 39-40 were allowed.

Withdrawn Claims 23-25

Applicant respectfully requests consideration and allowance of withdrawn claim 23-25, which depend on allowed claim 21.

CONCLUSION

Applicant respectfully submits that the claims are in condition for allowance, and notification to that effect is earnestly requested. The Examiner is invited to telephone Applicant's attorney at (612) 373-6960 to facilitate prosecution of this application.

If necessary, please charge any additional fees or credit overpayment to Deposit Account No. 19-0743.

Respectfully submitted,

GURTEJ S. SANDHU ET AL.

By their Representatives,


SCHWEGMAN, LUNDBERG, WOESSNER & KLUTH, P.A.

P.O. Box 2938

Minneapolis, MN 55402

(612) 373-6960

Date 5-1-06

By 

Marvin L. Beekman

Reg. No. 38,377

CERTIFICATE UNDER 37 CFR 1.8: The undersigned hereby certifies that this correspondence is being filed using the USPTO's electronic filing system EFS-Web, and is addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on this 1 day of May, 2006.

KATE GANNON

Name



Signature